Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service | 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd. Suite B105 | West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145 (765) 494-8371

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 27

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Wet field conditions continue to hinder field activities in many areas of the state, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Showers and thunderstorms continued to move through portions of the state again last week. Precipitation has been far above normal in most regions of the state during July. Many farmers were able to finish harvesting winter wheat. Cutting and baling of hay also made good progress during the week. The cooler weather and sunshine have been favorable for corn fields entering into the period of pollination. Soybean plants are growing rapidly in most fields around the state. Many farmers were visiting FSA offices along with attending local county fairs during the week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.5 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Sixty-one percent of the corn acreage has **silked**, which is on par with a year ago, but behind the 83 percent for the 5-year average. Eight percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dough** stage compared with 6 percent last year and 18 percent for the average. Corn plants are showing the effects of water damage in portions of some fields and many river bottom fields are completely destroyed. Corn **condition** improved from last week and is rated 55 percent good to excellent compared with 31 percent last year at this time.

Fifty-six percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 55 percent last year and 79 percent for the average. Fourteen percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 15 percent last year and 33 percent for the average. Soybean **condition** also improved and is rated 51 percent good to excellent compared with 35 percent last year at this time.

Winter wheat **harvest** is 97 percent complete compared with 100 percent complete for both last year and the 5-year average. By area, 93 percent of the wheat acreage is harvested in the north, 98 percent in the central region and 100 percent in the south.

Major activities during the week were spraying for weeds and insects, cleaning up and repairing equipment, certifying crops at FSA offices, moving grain to market, mowing lots and roadsides, baling hay and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 12 percent excellent, 60 percent good, 21 percent fair, 6 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Second cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 74 percent complete compared with 86 percent last year and 92 percent for average. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
		Percent		
Corn Silked	61	35	61	83
Corn In Dough	8	2	6	18
Soybeans Blooming	56	36	55	79
Soybeans Setting Pods	14	5	15	33
Winter Wheat Harvested	97	88	100	100
Alfalfa Second Cutting	74	61	86	92

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	5	13	27	42	13
Soybean	5	12	32	42	9
Pasture	1	6	21	60	12

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	1	1	31
Short	5	6	42
Adequate	65	56	26
Surplus	29	37	1
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	1	25
Short	7	8	40
Adequate	66	62	34
Surplus	26	29	1
Days Suitable	4.5	4.2	6.4

CONTACT INFORMATION

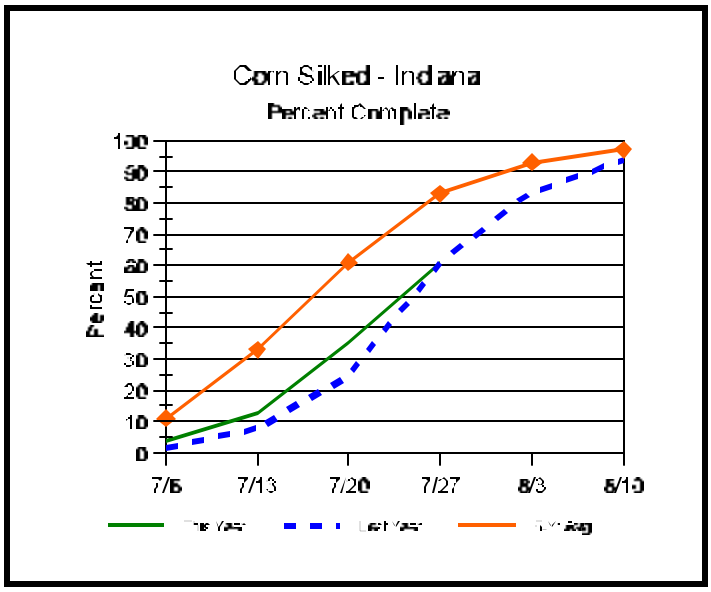
--Greg Preston, State Statistician

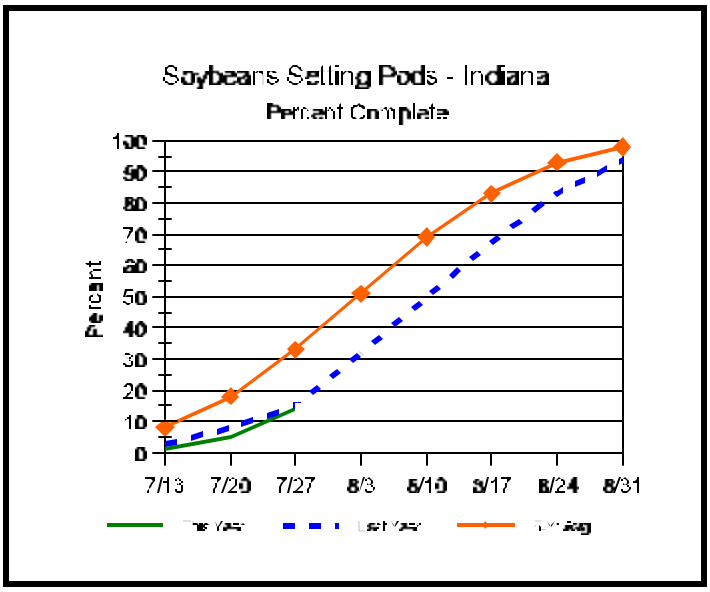
--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician

E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov

http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm

Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Japanese Beetle Treatment Guidelines

- Beetle damage usually looks worse than it is
- Corn and soybean damage particulars and treatment guidelines are given
- Controlling adults to prevent grub damage is impractical
- Don't use "bag-a-bug " type traps

As previously reported, Japanese beetle are emerging and being seen throughout the state. Adults will continue to emerge from the soil for several weeks, causing concern to producers and homeowners alike. The one important thing to remember when it comes to Japanese beetles – their presence and damage usually looks worse than it is.

Field Corn: Japanese beetle feed on corn leaves, tassels, and silks. Generally leaf and tassel feeding can be ignored. If beetles are present and feeding on corn silks, an insecticide should be applied only if on average the silks are being cut off to less than 1/2 inch before 50% pollination has taken place. This rarely happens on a field-wide basis. Don't be overly excited by this pest's tendency to clump on a few ears within an area and eat the silks down to the husks. With sufficient soil moisture, silks will grow from 1/2 to 1 inch per day during the one to two weeks of pollen shed. Silks only need to be peeking out of the husk to receive pollen. Besides, beetles are often attracted to silks that have already completed the fertilization process even though they are still somewhat yellow. Check for pollen shed and silk feeding in several areas of the field, Japanese beetles tend to be present only in the outer rows of the field. Don't be influenced by what you think you may see from windshield surveys! Get out into fields to determine beetle activity.

Soybean: Soybean plants have the amazing ability to withstand considerable damage (defoliation) before yield is impacted. The impact of defoliation is greatest during flowering and pod fill because of the importance of leaf area to photosynthesis, and ultimately to yield. Therefore, nearly 50% soybean defoliation before bloom or 25% defoliation from bloom to pod fill can be tolerated before yields are economically affected. This defoliation must occur for the whole plant, not just the upper canopy. The beetles often congregate in areas of a field where they are first attracted to weeds such as smartweed. Typically if economic damage occurs, it is only in these areas. Therefore, spot treatments should be considered. Don't be overly alarmed by these bright, iridescent beetles that feed on the top canopy of the soybean plants. Consider that as they feed their defoliation allows for better sunlight penetration into the lower plant canopy!

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday July 27, 2003

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation April 1, 2003 thru July 27, 2003			
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	86	54	70	-5	0.80	3	74	25.67	+10.99	47	1614	-171
Valparaiso_AP_I	85	53	71	-3	1.49	2		18.99	+3.43	46	1476	-125
Wanatah	90	50	69	-3	1.33	2	76	19.38	+4.29	50	1378	-151
Wheatfield	86	53	71	-2	5.63	2		28.10	+13.35	46	1523	-53
Winamac	84	55	70	-3	1.96	4	71	22.58	+7.81	49	1512	-125
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	85	53	69	-5	0.59	2		16.77	+1.29	44	1426	-281
South_Bend	84	55	70	-3	2.42	1		16.43	+1.94	45	1501	-83
Young_America	83	54	70	-4	1.07	2		21.10	+6.88	47	1624	-49
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	84	55	70	-3	1.65	3		18.04	+3.48	53	1465	-46
Fort_Wayne	83	56	71	-4	1.99	3		22.50	+9.08	45	1502	-161
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	86	51	70	-6	0.86	3		20.58	+3.83	50	1560	-336
Perrysville	87	51	71	-5	1.08	1	73	17.44	+1.41	42	1763	-11
Spencer_Ag	86	54	71	-5	1.37	4		19.61	+2.46	53	1734	-43
Terre_Haute_AFB	86	53	72	-5	0.84	2		15.60	-0.65	39	1867	-26
W_Lafayette_6NW	86	52	71	-3	0.64	1	76	19.32	+4.58	50	1678	+5
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	85	58	72	-4	0.86	4		17.68	+2.58	43	1776	-98
Greenfield	83	56	70	-6	0.36	2		21.44	+4.92	52	1661	-126
Indianapolis_AP	85	57	72	-5	1.11	3		19.80	+4.70	45	1802	-72
Indianapolis_SE	84	53	70	-7	1.46	3		17.40	+1.72	45	1680	-174
Tipton_Ag	85	55	69	-4	0.91	2	78	24.84	+9.96	46	1501	-118
East Central (6)												
Farmland	85	55	71	-3	1.38	3	70	20.64	+5.86	45	1589	+14
New_Castle	81	53	68	-7	0.80	1		16.06	-0.15	42	1366	-243
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	88	59	74	-5	0.75	1		17.47	+1.66	46	2082	-122
Freelandville	88	58	73	-4	0.19	1		19.67	+3.32	43	1927	-32
Shoals	87	55	71	-5	1.70	3		23.07	+5.39	48	1866	-17
Stendal	89	60	74	-4	1.98	2		19.25	+1.74	39	1993	-67
Vincennes_5NE	88	57	73	-4	1.15	4		20.14	+3.79	54	1962	+3
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	88	58	73	-3	1.49	4		19.21	+1.36	57	1894	+16
Oolitic	85	54	71	-5	2.44	4	73	22.23	+5.49	54	1774	-19
Tell_City	90	60	75	-4	0.56	1		18.00	+0.25	38	2206	+118
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	87	57	72	-3	0.70	2		19.38	+3.29	48	1783	+96
Milan_5NE	85	57	71	-4	1.31	4		22.22	+6.13	65	1731	+44
Scottsburg	87	55	72	-5	1.30	3		19.53	+2.98	51	1800	-142

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com or call toll free at 1-888-798-9955.

Grubs: Japanese beetle develop from grubs that fed on organic matter and/or the roots of plants last fall and this spring. Therefore it seems logical that killing adult beetles this year should prevent grub damage in 2004. However it simply doesn't work that way. Researchers' attempts to draw in beetles to encourage them to lay eggs for subsequent grub damage in research plots have generally failed. Entomologists for years have been trying to understand this fickeled creature. Basically, the adults feed, mate, and lay eggs when and where they want to. The grubs are just as unpredictable. Research attempts to correlate grub presence to crop damage have usually shown insignificant differences. Damage does occur, but we are just not usually able to predict when or assess how much. Consider that each beetle mates and lays eggs several times during its oviposition period. To prevent egg laying in a field, one would need to treat multiple times during July and August.

Some producers have purchased Japanese beetle traps and have placed them where beetles have congregated. The "bag-a-bug" type trap can utilize both a pheromone and a floral scent to attract both sexes of the beetle. However, these traps are NOT recommended for beetle management because they attract more beetles than they control, resulting in localized plant damage.

Should controls be needed, refer to publications E-219-W, *Corn Insect Control Recommendations–2003,* or E-77, *Soybean Insect Control Recommendations – 2003* for labeled products. These and other field crop related publications can be viewed electronically at <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/e-series/fieldcro.htm>. A Flash animation of the Japanese beetle life cycle can be viewed at <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/fieldcropsipm/animation.htm>.

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